

## MILLER RESUMES FIGHT FOR GRAD OF TRACTION FARES

Ready to Force Contest in Legislature After His Illness.

**LINES UP THE BOSSES.**  
Patronage Whip Used by Up-State Men in Threatening Koenig and Livingston.

By Joseph S. Jordan.  
(Staff Correspondent of The Evening World.)

ALBANY, Feb. 7.—Gov. Miller, it is expected, will be on the job tomorrow, after a rest of ten days, made necessary by illness and physical weakness. The Governor is reported to be much improved and ready for the task ahead of him, which, he recognizes, is no light one, beginning of course with his rapid transit programme.

He has been examining the measure which would take from New York the control of its traction lines and leave the fixing of fares to a three-headed commission of his own or the Interborough's selection and reorganize the Up-State Public Service Commission and put all other public service utilities into their keeping. He has had the measure with him at the Executive Mansion since last Friday afternoon, and if he has made any changes in it they have not been announced.

It is expected that the bill will be introduced in both Houses at tomorrow's sessions, when the fight will be on and the far will begin to fly. The Governor, ill or not ill, has not overlooked anything which would serve to strengthen his forces on the field of battle.

The began by lining up his forces first, notwithstanding his defense that he is not playing politics. This defense is now looked upon as a smoke screen, behind which the Governor worked on the quiet.

The appointment of Herbert S. Sissons as Commissioner of Highways brought into camp the solid support of Fred Greiner, the Erie County boss.

There are Deputy Commissioners to be appointed—engineers and other choice morsels of patronage for the local leaders. And then there are "jobs" (not positions) for the gang which does the work on Election Day at and around the polls—the real vote getters—jobs for about 300 of the faithful.

To bring into line Monroe County, over which George Aldridge, "Big Chief" of Rochester, presides, the Governor made Charles L. Cadie Superintendent of Public Works. This is another post with tremendous possibilities of patronage—almost without limit along the banks of the big canal.

Now the locks are operated by electricity and the lock tenders get anywhere from \$1,800 to \$2,200 a year while they listen to the splash, splash of the canal.

The Governor hasn't overlooked the old home town, Syracuse. The appointment of Leslie Kincaid as Adjutant General has brought joy to all Orangemen.

Coming down to Albany County boss Bill Barnes has managed to grab his usual chunk of the lion's share. His man, Otto Jentz, has been made Superintendent of Public Buildings.

Still has the name of the Deputy Superintendent and has already had Fred Sarr appointed as First Deputy Highway Commissioner. The patronage which goes with these jobs keep the patronage Albanyans in line and preserve their complacency as well as their avocations. Mr. Barnes will see to it that Albany's contingent in the Legislature will vote for the Governor's programme.

Ben Odell's bullwhisk has not been overlooked. Rosche has been picked from his judicial garden and planted in the Supreme Court, and the former Governor has assurance of further care. So Ben has lined up his legislative forces in favor of Gov. Miller's programme.

W. Ward Smith, the Governor's private secretary, is credited to Bill Ward, the boss of Westchester, but brother Ward will see more of the sun shining in New York's backyard and is content to bask for the time being, in what he's got. John P. O'Brien, leader of the North, hasn't been in yet for his division of the political leaves and boughs, but there yet remains plenty of them for distribution.

But not a pop—not yet—for Sam Koenig, leader for Manhattan, nor for Jake Livingston, Brooklyn's Republican boss. The Governor's trying out the "boys" from down New York way and wants their votes on his traction programme. The leaders were against the division of home rule in their home towns, because they knew that the people won't stand for it. Sam Koenig is still worrying over the position, but Livingston, spurred by the necessity of political pup, has subscribed to the old Republican policy, "the people be damned."

Jake has become the most active man within Brooklyn's boundaries in his effort to make the people believe that they don't know what they want and that Gov. Miller does. He has the backing of the Brooklyn Union State Company, the B. R. T. and their subsidiaries. He has been holding "packed" meetings at the B. R. T. Convention and Board of Trade, and having "resolutions" sent to Albany, and is urging private individuals to write to the Governor to help out the latter's propaganda.

To-day the propaganda sent out from the Governor's office consisted of letters and wires from Governors of other States. Well, the other Governors know as much about running New York's trolley and subways as do the farmers from up-State, as Jack!

## SAYS HER HUSBAND OFFERED \$10,000 TO BE DIVORCED

Accepted His Defeat in Most Ungracious Manner, Declares Mrs. Erdrich.

Mrs. Elsie Furst Erdrich, who is suing for a separation, told Supreme Court Justice Bijur to-day that her husband several weeks ago offered her \$10,000 to divorce him, and that when she refused he raised his bids step by step until he had offered \$10,000.

When he saw she would not consent to the divorce, she said, he accepted his defeat "in a most ungracious manner."

Mrs. Erdrich, who is twenty-five years old and says her husband is thirty years her senior, is applying for \$100 a week alimony and \$1,000 counsel fees. She declares her husband, Samuel Erdrich, has an income of \$20,000 a year as a salesman of women's blouses, but has been negligent in supplying her with funds, and since leaving her last November has not contributed a penny toward her support.

Mrs. Erdrich asserted that her husband, on returning to their home at 11st Street and Riverside Drive one evening last November, struck her, threw her against a chair and kicked her, inflicting permanent scars. She now lives with her father, Alfred Furst, at No. 1157 Boston Road.

Justice Bijur reserved decision on application for alimony. In her separation suit the wife charged cruelty, abandonment and failure to support her.

The husband's attorney admitted that there had been differences between the Erdrichs and that efforts at reconciliation had been fruitless. On one occasion recently, he said, the husband went to meet the wife at a downtown lawyer's office, but she failed to appear and while the husband awaited her she obtained the services of a moving concern and stripped the house of all its contents, which she placed in storage. The husband in a replevin action got the greater portion of the property. He said the question of ownership of the property, which the wife claims is wedding presents given by her husband, will be decided in a separate action.

## RETURNS WITH STOLEN GEMS

Mrs. Roemer Had Gone to London to Testify Against Ship Steward.

The Lapland came in to-day from Antwerp and Southampton. One of the passengers was Mrs. L. M. Roemer, wife of the director of the chain of Dupont hotels in New York. She went to London recently to be a witness at the trial of a ship steward accused of stealing \$6,000 worth of jewelry from her stateroom. She brought the jewels back with her.

Another passenger was the Countess J. de la Roche, who married Count Michel Zichy of Hungary. She brought her two children, Michel and Marie, Countess Isabel de la Roche, who lives in Paris, came over to see New York.

## BLOW MAKES HIM DUMB.

Conductor Unable to Speak Since Deafened Him.

Charged with felonious assault for an alleged blow with his fist that paralyzed the vocal chords of Philip Addis, a 12-year-old boy, conductor of the 111 Van Stien Avenue, Brooklyn, Frank Ackoff, milk wagon driver, of No. 218 Pennsylvania Avenue, Brooklyn, was held in \$1,500 bail to-day by Magistrate McCarty in New York Avenue Court for examination Wednesday.

Addis, who was said, has been unable to speak since the alleged assault on Feb. 1. Ackoff admitted having an altercation with Addis when the latter called him a "scab."

## TRACING STOLEN BONDS.

Detectives in Memphis Get Clue to Rest of \$400,000.

Detectives McCoy and Roddy of New York, who were sent to Memphis to trail bonds who stole \$400,000 worth of Liberty Bonds in a Brooklyn holdup, believe the entire batch was taken to Memphis by two chauffeurs arrested there for having liquor in their possession Jan. 7.

The Memphis police say they are confident the bonds were first taken to Clarksville, Miss., and then to Memphis, and have a clue to the \$400,000 worth of bonds that are still missing.

## G. O. P. MAY FIGHT MILLER.

Kings County Committee Expected to Oppose Traction Policy.

Opposition to Gov. Miller's policies on the traction situation is expected to be raised by members of the Kings County Republican Committee at a meeting to-morrow night at Kliment Temple, Herkimer Street and Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, despite the fact that members of the Executive Committee last Thursday approved the proposed measure.

The Majority situation also will be discussed. One of the proposals expected is the appointment of a committee of five to act with Republican committees of the other boroughs in the consideration of a union candidate.

## KILLED IN GANG FIGHT.

Two Injured in Row Following a Dance.

The police expect to make an arrest to-day as a result of the gang battle in front of No. 158 Park Row last night in which Michael Demarec, a seaman of 42 Pearl Street, was killed. Frank Yale, a former prize fighter known as "Frankie Yale," was shot through the lung during the battle and is dying at Broad Street Hospital. George Bellotti, No. 21 Harper Street, was also injured but not seriously. He is locked up as a material witness.

The fight followed a quarrel at a dance at the Duane Field Club and was witnessed by many Chinatown night-auls.

## Mrs. South, "Triplets" She Returned, And Children She Says She Will Keep



A GROUP OF SOUTH CHILDREN

## FOUR BOYS OFF FOR CAPITAL, END IN JAIL

Youngsters Eager to See Inaugural, Held After Robbery of Brooklyn Grocery Store.

Fired with a desire to see the inauguration of the President next month, four Brooklyn boys started for Washington, but wound up in the Brooklyn Children's Court to-day, where Justice Ryan held them for examination Friday. They were Walter McNally, fourteen; Philip Reilly, fifteen; Charles George, thirteen; and William Weaver, fifteen.

They were arrested last night by Detective Gray of the Fourth Inspection District, while buying tickets for Washington in the Pennsylvania station. Thomas Martin, manager of a chain grocery store, No. 114 Court Street, Brooklyn, charged them with taking \$250 from his safe Saturday night.

Detectives Gray and Brozman said the boys admitted entering the store and taking the money from the safe, which they found unlocked. They spent \$100 on clothes, the detectives said they told them.

## RAID STORE NEXT TO POLICE STATION

Carl Scholbach, alleged proprietor of a confectionery store next door to the second precinct Police Station on Central Avenue, Yonkers, and twenty-two other men were arrested to-day in the Yonkers Police Court on charges of bookmaking and gambling as a result of a raid on the store yesterday.

Maurice D. O'Keefe, Commissioner of the Yonkers Police, said the police captain commanding the precinct after the raid.

Scholbach, a mail carrier, was in uniform when the place was raided, and the detectives found a mail pouch awaiting delivery to the Post Office after having been filed from the store.

Telephone, betting charts and paraphernalia used in many forms of gambling were said to have been discovered in the place.

## STIVERS GETS 5 YEARS MORE

Escaped Convict Must Now Serve Twelve Years After Life Term.

George W. Stivers was found guilty of assault in the first degree by a jury in White Plains to-day and sentenced to five years' imprisonment. He attacked a guard while escaping from the prison several months ago with Marcus Blauvelt.

Stivers was sent to the prison for a term of twenty years to life for committing a robbery of a Bronx postman and was serving when he escaped. Recently he was given a sentence of fifteen years' imprisonment for jail breaking.

Blaze Did Not Start in Low's.

In The Evening World's report Feb. 2 of the \$100,000 blaze on Westchester Avenue, between Tiffany and Kelly Streets, the Bronx, it was stated that the blaze appeared to have started in Low's upholstery shop. This was a mistake, which, leader Low, owner of the shop, has asked The Evening World to correct.

Who discovered smoke coming into her apartment from a lower floor. She notified her husband, who located the fire and promptly sent in an alarm over the telephone.

Convicted Robber Sentenced. Jacob Keaton, No. 301 Avenue C, Manhattan, found guilty of robbery in the second degree, was sentenced to-day by Judge May in Kings County Court to Star Sing for seven and one-half to ten years. He was charged with being one of a gang of four bandits who stole the payroll of the United States Trucking Corporation at No. 21 North Seventh Street on Nov. 5.

## WOMAN WHO FAKED BIRTHS MAY KEEP 6 OF THE CHILDREN

Husband Agrees to This After Denouncing Deceptions of Mrs. South.

ATLANTA, Feb. 7.—The family of Mrs. F. E. A. South has been reduced by three, and "only" children "born" in the last fourteen years remain. All of the children were secretly adopted by Mrs. South because of her love of babies.

Mrs. South, who is fifty-two years old, "faked" the birth of triplets on New Year's Eve, but owing to her failure to register a birth certificate, it was learned that the "triplets" were in reality the babies of three mothers, and had been born in a maternity hospital on Dec. 3, 5 and 10. They have been returned to the hospital.

The other six children will be kept. South, a grocery clerk, agreed to this after denouncing his wife's deception and threatening to send the others away also. The "twins," Ruth and Jewel, were born four years ago. Before that, Mrs. South had announced the birth of another set of twins, who have since died, and four other children, all of whom she wanted to bring up.

Mother love and an offer of her church to educate as missionaries the first triplets born to a church member prompted Mrs. South to adopt three babies and pass them off as her own. She has promised her husband, however, that she will be content with her present family of six children.

When the mother first confessed to South that the children were not his own as he supposed, he was determined to send them all back to the hospital, but Mrs. South refused, saying:

"Whether you leave home or whether you stay, these children are going to remain with me and I will raise them to be good men and women."

Mrs. M. R. Mitchell, from whose maternity hospital the children came, said she had cared for 800 children in her twenty-five years of practice, and that she had never known of any mother coming to Atlanta from every part of the United States. Her practice was within the law, though frowned upon by societies caring for babies.

## GIRL'S APARTMENT LOOTED.

Victims So Hysterical Unable to Estimate Stolen Property.

Burglars ransacked the apartment of Miss Elizabeth Hughes on the ground floor of No. 414 West 120th Street last night and departed by way of the fire escape with silverware, jewelry and wearing apparel belonging to Miss Hughes and her sister. The victims returned shortly after midnight and found two heavy chairs barring the inside of their apartment door.

The girls were so hysterical over their losses to-day that they could give no definite estimate of the value of the stolen goods.

## MRS. HARDING BACK IN CAPITAL

Tired After Shopping Tour in New York—To Join Husband in South.

Mrs. Warren G. Harding, wife of the President-elect, is back in Washington to-day.

She left here Sunday at 12:30 after a shopping tour in New York, accompanied by Mrs. Harry S. New and Mrs. Edward B. McLean. She will remain in Washington three or four days, meet Mr. Harding in St. Augustine, Fla., and accompany him to Marion, O. They will return to Washington just before his inauguration.

Along with the party went trunks of clothing which Mrs. Harding accumulated during her visit. In preparation for her duties as mistress of the White House. She looked much better than when she arrived. Then she showed some evidence of the fatigue.

## "BIG TIM" MURPHY GIVES HIMSELF UP

Chicago Labor Leader and Politician Sought in Connection With \$100,000 Theft.

CHICAGO, Feb. 7.—"Big Tim" Murphy, labor leader and politician, sought in connection with a \$100,000 mail coach robbery at Pullman last August, surrendered to-day to Chief of Police Egan. A warrant for Murphy's arrest was sworn out by Federal officers, but Murphy said he preferred to surrender to Chief Egan.

Vincent Comanzo, an associate of Murphy, arrested on the same charge, is out on bond. Both men denounced the charges as a "frame-up."

## Borough President Heuckner Has Eye Trouble.

Henry Bruckner, Bronx Borough President, is suffering from eye trouble and has been ordered by his physician to drop all official duties and seek complete rest. It was stated to-day by his secretary, Thomas K. Dolan, Mr. Bruckner, he said, will leave to-day for Atlantic City, to remain about ten days.

## Better Teeth Campaign Begins.

An educational film on "Dental Hygiene" will be shown to-night at the Academy of Medicine, No. 41 West 4th Street. The picture is being presented by the Dental Hygiene Society in cooperation with the Board of Health, and this is the beginning, according to Health Commissioner Copeland, of a campaign for cleaner and better teeth.

## Cats That Growl And Wear Manes Lead to \$25 Fine

Give Them Plenty of Air and Keep Them Quiet, Court Tells Owner.

Cats is cats—theoretically.

But when you get down to cases there are practical differences between your pet Angora and the five "cats" of Mme. Adgiles Costello, who was fined \$25 in the West Side Court to-day for treating "em rough.

The fine was easy. But the rest of the problem confronting the intrepid lady—who is now unfortunately "at liberty" in the theatrical as well as the legal sense—is difficult.

People who live in the vicinity of No. 409 West 16th Street complained they were kept awake by the "roaring of wild animals." Agents of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals found Mme. Costello's "cats" stored on the second floor in boxes which they had outgrown. The premises were those of the Progressive Transfer Company, which undertook to board the lions for \$10 a week. Oh, yes, lions are "cats" in circus parlance.

Mme. Costello, in court, told how hard it was to find suitable homes for growing lions. She herself lives at the Hotel Churchill, Broadway and 14th Street, but is not permitted to receive lions in her room. The Hide-A-Wee Home, which takes other cats, takes no lions. She said lively stable men refused to mix lions with horses.

There was nothing she could do. And yet the court, in addition to imposing a fine, ordered Mme. Costello to see that her lions hereafter get plenty of light, air and exercise. The Magistrate did not advise her as to whether she might leash and muzzle them and lead them up and down Broadway.

## GIRL FOUND DAZED ON PIER.

Wandering Music Student Is Sent to Bellevue.

Miss Lillian J. Wilhelm, twenty-four years old, of Travis, Mich., who has been studying music here since September, was found dazed and wandering on a pier at 93d Street and East River last night by Patrolman Welles of the East 83d Street Station. She was taken to that station, where she said she shared a room at No. 109 West 83d Street with Miss Irma Phillips.

Miss Phillips, called to the station, said Miss Wilhelm had been acting strangely several days. The police were about to release the latter in Miss Phillips' care when she became hysterical. An ambulance from City Hospital took her to Bellevue Hospital.

## FIRE IN RIDGEWOOD.

Old Building Near Country Club Is Destroyed.

An old, unoccupied building on the grounds of the Ridgewood (N.Y.) Country Club burned late last night, attracting a crowd of motorists and others who thought the clubhouse was on fire. The building was of little value and was not near enough to endanger the clubhouse, one of the finest in New Jersey, according to the Ridgewood police. The loss was small.

## PNEUMONIA THRICE—LIVES.

Rare Case in That of John J. Curran, Again on His Feet.

Rarely around these parts has it occurred that a patient stricken with pneumonia a third time weathers the attack. But that's exactly what John J. Curran, Chief Investigator of the Automobile Bureau in the Secretary of State's office on West 60th Street, has done.

Mr. Curran, who was being congratulated on his convalescence at his home, No. 1663 Second Avenue, by numerous friends last night, said: "Dr. E. H. Wells, who had no in hand, says I'm a physical wonder. But they built their men of enduring material in the old First Ward where I was born under the wing of 'Sloper' Flynn and Judge 'Thirty Days' Duffy. The brothers in this ward, in Barclay Street didn't go in much for molly-coddling their boys either. So to these things I guess I owe the vitality that pulled me through from the jaws of death."

# B. Altman & Co.

MADISON AVENUE - FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK  
Thirty-fourth Street Thirty-fifth Street

**Exceptional Value**  
will be offered to-morrow (Tuesday) in  
**A Special Clearance Sale of**  
**One Thousand Women's**  
**House and Morning Dresses**

some taken from stock, others being the residue of special assortments; all of them attractively made of pretty cotton fabrics, and marked at the greatly reduced prices of

**\$2.95 and 3.85**

(Sale on the SIXTH FLOOR)